



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/018,959	04/26/2002	Yong-Seok Jeong	08015.0006	6058
22852	7590	10/18/2005	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			STOICA, MARIA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3715	

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/018,959

Applicant(s)

JEONG, YONG-SEOK

Examiner

Maria Stoica

Art Unit

3715

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 27 December 2001
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 27 December 2001 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed that is not in the English language. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is longer than 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Art Unit: 3715

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: PSTN, PDA, and URL are used several times without any reference to the item for which they are acronyms. A mention of the entire name of these elements should be made at some point in the disclosure. On p. 14, line 14, there should be a '.' after questions. On p. 16, line 20, the phrase reading "A description of the items ..." is grammatically incorrect.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: the acronym URL is used without specifically defining the full term for which it is an abbreviation. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632 et al. (US Patent No. 6,325,632).

Art Unit: 3715

Chao'632 discloses a real-time counseling service that uses a network (Figure 9), comprising:

receiving a query from a user (col. 4, lines 1-8);

generating an identification code for the specific query (col. 4, lines 61+);

determining a counselor based on said identification code of said query (col. 5, lines 29-30);

creating a counseling room for the user and the counselor to interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line 1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a language information, a service-providing server's information, a query-contents identification, and a user's location information (Figures 4 and 5).

6. Claims 2, 10, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #4, the language information associated with the user is the language corresponding to the query (352, 364, col. 1, lines 58-59).

7. Claims 4, 12, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #4, the query contents identification in the system can correspond to a query contents category number, where the user chooses the hierarchy of categories (col. 5 lines 32-41).

8. Claims 6, 14, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #4, the system can determine a counselor that is the best match based on the language

Art Unit: 3715

information and the query-contents identification (col. 5, lines 29-30; Figure 4, specifically 304 and 306).

9. Claims 7, 15, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #4, communication from user to user can be done through video conferencing over the Internet (col. 7, lines 7-13), which is a type of cyber space.

10. Claims 8, 16, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #4 or #7, the system allows for communication through video conferencing over the Internet (col. 7, lines 7-13), which is a form of a chat room. Furthermore, since a chat room is already provided, the system implemented here is inherently capable of supporting the sending of URLs through the chat room service from a first user to a second, for use by the second user in any fashion desired.

11. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus for providing a real-time counseling service over a network (Figure 9) comprising:

- receiving means for receiving a query from a user (col. 4, lines 1-8);

- controlling means for generating an identification code corresponding with said query (col. 4, lines 61+), determining a counselor using said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30), and creating an environment where the user and the counselor can interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

Art Unit: 3715

wherein said identification code includes at least one from the group consisting of language information, a service-providing server's information, a query-contents identification, and a user's location information (Figures 4 and 5).

12. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus for providing data for creating a counseling room (552) coupled to a server (550) that communicates with the user through a network (556), said apparatus comprising:

receiving means from receiving a query from the user (col. 4, lines 1-8);

generating means for generating the identification code corresponding to the user's query (col. 4, lines 61+);

transmitting means for sending the query and its identification code to the server, where the server finds a counselor using the requested identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30), and then creates a room in which the user and counselor can interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a language information, a service provider's server's information, a query-contents identification, a user's location information, and a counseling server's information (Figures 4 and 5).

13. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus for providing a counseling room

Art Unit: 3715

(552) coupled to a server (550) that communicates with the user through a network (556), said apparatus comprising:

receiving means from receiving a query and identification code from the server (col. 4, lines 1-9, 61+), where the query is provided by the user and the identification code is generated at the server;

controlling means for determining a counselor using said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30);

creating a room in which the user and counselor can interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a language information, a service provider's server's information, a query-contents identification, a user's location information, and a counseling server's information (Figures 4 and 5).

14. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus for providing a real-time counseling service by using a network (Figure 9), comprising:

a storage device (108);

a processor coupled to said storage device (inherently implied by the requirements of 102, 104, 106, 110, 112);

said storage device storing a program for controlling said processor (again, inherent to the system since 102, 104, 106, 110, 112 need to be coded into the system);

Art Unit: 3715

said processor operative with said program to

receive a query from a user (col. 4, lines 1-8);

generate an identification code corresponding with said query (col. 4, lines 61+);

determine a counselor with said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30);

create a counseling room for counselor and user to communicate (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one from the group consisting of language information, a service-providing server's information, a query-contents identification, and a user's location information (Figures 4 and 5).

15. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus for providing data for creating a counseling service by using a server (550) and network (Figure 9), said apparatus comprising:

a storage device (108);

a processor coupled to said storage device (inherently implied by the requirements of 102, 104, 106, 110, 112);

said storage device storing a program for controlling said processor (again, inherent to the system since 102, 104, 106, 110, 112 need to be coded into the system);

said processor operative with said program to

Art Unit: 3715

receive a query from a user (col. 4, lines 1-9);

generate an identification code corresponding with said query (col. 4, lines 61+);

send the identification code information to a server (Figure 1) that can

determine a counselor with said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30);

create a counseling room for counselor and user to communicate (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one from the group consisting of language information, a service-providing server's information, a query-contents identification, and a user's location information (Figures 4 and 5).

16. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses an apparatus, coupled with a server, for providing a user with a counseling room by using a network (Figure 9), said apparatus comprising:

a storage device (108);

a processor coupled to said storage device (inherently implied by the requirements of 102, 104, 106, 110, 112);

Art Unit: 3715

said storage device storing a program for controlling said processor
(again, inherent to the system since 102, 104, 106, 110, 112 need to be coded
into the system); and

said processor operative with said program to

receive a query from a user (col. 4, lines 1-9);

receive an identification code corresponding with said query at the
server end (col. 4, lines 61+);

determine a counselor with said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-
30);

create a counseling room for counselor and user to communicate
(col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line1);

wherein said identification code includes at least one from the
group consisting of language information, a service-providing server's
information, a query-contents identification, and a user's location
information, and a counseling server's information (Figures 4 and 5).

17. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses a method for providing a real-time counseling service on a network with a server (Figure 9). Although it is not specifically stated that the system should have at least one page in a site with links linking the different parts, these aspects are inherent to the system since Chao'632 discloses that the system could be working on a Web server, using HTTP protocol (col. 8, lines 23-28). HTTP protocols and the Web make it inherent to the

Art Unit: 3715

system that websites and links linking those websites would exist on the system.

Furthermore, the method includes:

generating an identification code for a user (col. 4, lines 1-9);

transmitting said identification code to the counseling server;

wherein the counseling server determines a counselor using said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30) and provides a counseling room in which the user and counselor can interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line 1).

18. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #16, Chao'632 discloses that the identification code includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a language information, a contents-providing server's information, a category information, and a counseling server's information (Figures 4 and 5).

19. Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #17, Chao'632 discloses that the identification code further includes user-related information (Figures 4 and 5, specifically 321 and 361).

20. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. Chao'632 discloses a method for providing a real-time counseling service by using a network (Figure 9). Although it is not specifically stated that the system should have at least one page in a site with links linking the different parts, these aspects are inherent to the system since Chao'632 discloses that the system could be working on a Web server, using HTTP protocol (col. 8, lines 23-

Art Unit: 3715

28). HTTP protocols and the Web make it inherent to the system that websites and links linking those websites would exist on the system. Furthermore, the method comprises the steps of:

receiving an identification code corresponding with a counseling link selected by a user from a contents providing server (col. 4, lines 1-9), wherein said identification code includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a language information, a contents-providing server's information, a category information, and a counseling server's information (Figures 4 and 5);

determining a counselor using said identification code (col. 5, lines 29-30);
and

creating a counseling room in which the user and the counselor can interact (col. 5, line 67 – col. 6, line 1).

21. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #19, the service of Chao'632 further allows the user to retrieve and review basic counseling information using the identification code (col. 5, lines 53-61).

22. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #20, the service of Chao'632 provides a chatting service based on at least one selected from the group consisting of text, voice, picture board, and picture (col. 7, lines 11-13).

23. Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chao'632. In addition to the features described in #20, the method disclosed in Chao'632 further includes the steps of:

Art Unit: 3715

receiving a help request and help contents from said user (col. 6, lines 34-36; col. 8, lines 16-22);

determining a professional counselor using said help contents (Figure 6);

linking the professional counselor and user (Figure 10, specifically 604);

and

sending at least said basic counseling information to said professional counselor (Figure 10, specifically 606).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

24. Claims 3, 11, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chao'632 in view of Thompson. In addition to the features described in #4, it is inherent that the service providing server's information must be provided during the communication between the devices of the network (see Figure 9) because this is how devices identify each other and uniquely identify themselves. However, Chao'632 does not teach that the service-providing server's information should be the domain name (URL) of the service-providing server. However, the article by Thompson teaches that the URL is industry standard for providing the server information along with websites. Therefore, it

Art Unit: 3715

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to identify the server by a URL when the different components of the network (see Figure 9) communicate since the different components need to be able to identify each other, and URL is the industry standard of performing the required task.

25. Claims 5, 13, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chao'632 in view of Thompson. In addition to the features described in #4, it is inherent to the system that the user's connection should be part of the query in order for the components of the network to operate properly. Chao'632 does not specify that the user's location information is the user's connection control information. However, as discussed in #23, when a grouped set of devices has to communicate with each other over a network, each component needs to identify itself to all the other components. As taught by Thompson, it is industry standard to use the connection information (i.e. an IP address) to distinguish one device from another when devices are connected to each other over the Internet. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use the connection information of the user's hardware to identify the user over the network since it is the industry standard.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maria Stoica whose telephone number is

Art Unit: 3715

(571) 272-5564. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanda Harris can be reached on (571) 272-4448. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MS

Chanda L. Harris
CHANDAL HARRIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER